

LaSalle Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	LaSalle	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	18.7%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	24.0%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	5.9%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,876	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	94.1%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	3.3%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	15.3	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	85.5%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	79.5%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	8.7%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	18.9%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	16.3	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	119.0	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	238.8	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	0.0	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	398.5	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	209.7	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	**	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	**	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	23.2	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.2	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 3	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	27.8%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI > 30 (adults 20+)	31.4%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	75.7%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	85.1%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	73.9%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA = Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

LaSalle Parish was created out of Catahoula Parish on January 1, 1910. The new parish was named in honor of the great French explorer who took formal possession of all the lands drained by the Mississippi and the tributaries thereof in the name of King Louis XIV in the year 1682.



Urania Park and Jena Public Park offer serene surroundings for relaxation and play. Catahoula Lake, located in Jena, is unique among all the lakes in Louisiana because of its size, topography, drastic seasonal water fluctuations, and plant zones. White Sulphur Springs, listed on the National Register of Historic Place, was operated as a health spa during the mid-1800s. Its popularity grew quickly, and by 1850 the spring's location boasted a town of sorts, with two large hotels, a livery stable, a cotton gin, a grist mill, a post office, and a school. Time passed, however, and today only the octagon-shaped building covering the bubbling sulphur spring still stands. Of special interest is the Henry E. Hardtner Memorial, honoring the father of reforestation in the South, who founded Urania Lumber Company in 1898, located in Urania Park. LaSalle Parish also offers many festivals, arts & crafts exhibitions, along with one of the oldest fairs in the state.

Parish Seat³ Jena

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

N/A

Parish Population⁴

2000.....	89,974
2003 (estimate)	14,179
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	82.9%
African-American	12.6%
Some other race.....	4.5%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	0.1%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	6.9%
5-14	15.5%
15-17	4.9%
18-19	3.6%
20-24	7.0%
25-64	50.9%
65 & over	11.3%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation	157ft.
Land area in square miles	624
Water area in square miles	38.5

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	65°
January	55°
July	92°
Annual average rainfall	60 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

LaSalle Parish

Civilian.....	4,582
Employed	4,297
Unemployed.....	285
Unemployment.....	6.2%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Louisiana College, Pineville
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Alexandria

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Tourism. 1998. keywords: regional information
<<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary
<http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.